

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2020

Paul Sullivan
President
Baseball Writers' Association of America
160 N. Stetson Ave.
Chicago, IL 60601

Rob Manfred
Commissioner
Major League Baseball
1271 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY, 10020

Dear President Sullivan and Commissioner Manfred:

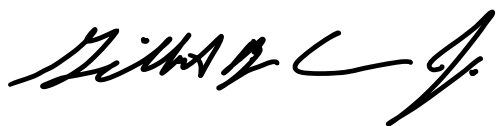
We write in solidarity with the several Major League Baseball (MLB) Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award winners that have called for the removal of Kenesaw Mountain Landis' name from the MLB MVP award.

We recognize that Commissioner Landis' namesake on the award is the result of his role in creating the system by which the Baseball Writers' Association of America (BBWAA) picks each league's MVP recipient. However, given that Commissioner Landis perpetuated baseball's "Gentlemen's Agreement," to keep Black players out of the major leagues, we agree it is time to remove his name from the award, and move toward a more inclusive award designation.

We commend BBWAA representatives for public statements expressing a commitment to consider the designation of the award. We understand that the objection of any BBWA member could bring the issue to the board for a discussion and a vote. With the next BBWAA meeting not until December, we urge you to initiate this process with all deliberate speed before the next MVPs are awarded in November.

Thank you for your time and attention. We stand ready to support your efforts to identify an award designation that is more reflective of baseball's unique history of bringing communities together across racial divides. America's pastime deserves nothing less.

Sincerely,



Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Cedric Richmond
Member of Congress

Members Signing

/s/ Colin Allred
Member of Congress

/s/ Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

/s/ Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress

/s/ Greg Stanton
Member of Congress

/s/ Tim Ryan
Member of Congress

/s/ Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

/s/ Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress

/s/ Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

/s/ Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

/s/ Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress

/s/ Mike Levin
Member of Congress

/s/ Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

/s/ Dean Phillips
Member of Congress

/s/ Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress

/s/ Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

/s/ Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

/s/ TJ Cox
Member of Congress

/s/ Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress

/s/ Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

/s/ Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

/s/ Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/ Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress

/s/ Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress

/s/ Thomas Suozzi
Member of Congress

/s/ Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

/s/ Marc Veasey
Member of Congress